

Message Text

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64

ACTION ARA-10

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 INR-07 NSAE-00 PA-01

USIA-06 PRS-01 SP-02 AID-05 HEW-04 OES-06 IO-13 /056 W

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R 201245Z SEP 76

FM AMEMBASSY LA PAZ

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 2413

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE LA PAZ 7455

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: SPOP, SOCI, BL, EAID

SUBJ: CARDINAL CHALLENGES GOB RE BIRTH CONTROL

REF: LA PAZ 7371

1. CARDINAL MAURER CONTINUED HIS CRITICISM OF THE GOB IN A LETTER TO THE GOB MINISTER OF HEALTH ASKING THE LATTER TO START A "GENUINE" INVESTIGATION WHICH WILL DEMONSTRATE THAT A POLICY OF INDISCRIMINATE BIRTH CONTROL IS BEING CARRIED OUT WITH THE KNOWLEDGE OF THE BOLIVIAN GOVERNMENT (REFTEL). THE CARDINAL'S LETTER WAS CARRIED BY THE LOCAL PRESS SEPTEMBER 16. THE LETTER STATES THAT THE CHURCH WILL PRESENT PROOF OF ITS ALLEGATIONS. THE CARDINAL CALLS ON THE MINISTRY TO MOUNT AN INVESTIGATION UNDER THE CHARGE OF IMPARTIAL, CHRISTIAN, AND PARTIOTIC DOCTORS. THE CARDINAL ALSO CHARGES THAT THERE ARE RUMORS THAT PEOPLE INFORMING THE CHURCH THAT BIRTH CONTROL INFORMATION AND MATERIALS ARE BEING DISTRIBUTED BY THE GOVERNMENT HAVE BEEN MENACED BY THE GOVERNMENT AS "POLITICAL AGITATORS"

2. THE LETTER CHARGES THAT INTRA-UTERINE DEVICES, BIRTH CONTROL PILLS, DIAPHRAGMS, JELLIES, CONDOMS AND BIRTH CONTROL PROPAGANDA ARE BEING DISTRIBUTED IN GREAT QUANTITIES. "WHY ARE THE 'UNSCRUPULOUS DOCTORS' LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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IMPOSING THESE PRACTICES ON THE PEOPLE NOT PUNISHED?"

ASKS THE LETTER.

3. THE MINISTER OF HEALTH ANNOUNCED SEPTEMBER 17
THAT A NOTE HAD BEEN SENT TO THE CARDINAL ASKING FOR
EVIDENCE OF HIS ALLEGATIONS AND PROPOSING A JOINT
COMMISSION OF MINISTRY OF HEALTH OFFICIALS AND PERSONS
NAMED BY THE CARDINAL TO INVESTIGATE THE CHARGES OF
THE CHURCH.

4. COMMENT: THE CARDINAL'S LETTER MADE NO RPT NO
MENTION OF FOREIGN SUPPORT FOR THE BIRTH CONTROL
PROGRAM BUT OTHER EARLIER PRESS ARTICLES HAD
MENTIONED SUPPORT FROM "FOREIGN POWERS".
STEDMAN

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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 JAN 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
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Concepts: FAMILY PLANNING, CHURCH STATE RELATIONS
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 20 SEP 1976
Decaption Date: 01 JAN 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: CunninFX
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 28 MAY 2004
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
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Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: N/A
Errors: N/A
Film Number: D760355-0366
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Handling Restrictions: n/a
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ISecure: 1
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Review Authority: CunninFX
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Margaret P. Grafeld
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To: STATE
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